

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 00609 111616Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03  
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01  
L-03 H-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /094 W  
-----111736Z 126736 /42

R 111430Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9609  
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN  
AMEMBASSY MASERU  
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

MASERU FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EMIN, BC  
SUBJECT: DIAMOND PRICE INCREASE

1. AT DINNER HOSTED BY ANGLO-AMERICAN CORP. DIRECTOR MARCH 10, ANTHONY OPPENHEIMER TOLD CHIEF THAT ACROSS-THE-BOARD WORLD PRICE FOR UNCUT DIAMONDS WOULD UNDERGO AVERAGE FIFTEEN PERCENT INCREASE BEGINNING MARCH 28. INCREASE AT RETAIL LEVEL WILL BE VERY MUCH MORE, HE ADDED, BUT WOULD NOT SPECULATE EXACTLY HOW MUCH IT MIGHT AMOUNT TO. HE SAID THIS INCREASE REPRESENTS INFLATION TO SOME EXTENT, BUT ALSO A REAL INCREASE IN RELATIVE VALUE OF DIAMONDS.

2. ON MARCH 11, MINISTER OF MINERAL RESOURCES CHIEF TOLD CHIEF SHE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF THE INCREASE ONLY TWO DAYS  
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BEFORE, AND HAD JUST TOLD VICE PRESIDENT THAT MORNING (PRESIDENT HAS BEEN OUT OF COUNTRY). SHE DID NOT SAY WHEN GOB WOULD MAKE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT.

3. COMMENT: IN RECENT BUDGET SPEECH, VICE PRESIDENT STATED DIAMONDS WERE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE 36 MILLION PULA (OVER 40 MILLION DOLLARS) IN REVENUE DURING FINANCIAL

YEAR ENDING MARCH 31. WITH MINING OPERATIONS AT LETLHAKANE GOING ON STREAM FULLY, ANGLO-AMERICAN (DEBEERS BOTSWANA) ANTICIPATES A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN TOTAL OUTPUT THIS COMING YEAR, PARTICULARLY IN GEM QUALITY STONES. THIS, PLUS THE FITEEN PERCENT AVERAGE INCREASE, COULD BOOST TOTAL GOB REVENUES FROM DIAMOND MINING TO OVER 60 MILLION PULA FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 1977-1978. END COMMENT.

4. SINCE GOB HAS NOT YET MADE PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF PRICE INCREASE, THIS INFORMATION SHOULD BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL.

ALBERTI

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIAMONDS, PRICES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977GABORO00609  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770084-0948  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 5ad93dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3141628  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DIAMOND PRICE INCREASE  
**TAGS:** EMIN, BC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5ad93dba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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